



Recreation Department

PARK COMMISSIONERS

Shirley Canniff  
Leslie Mayer  
Jen Rothenberg  
Phil Lasker  
Scott Walker  
Josh Fenollosa - Associate  
Sarah Carrier- Associate

MEETING NOTICE

The Park and Recreation Commission  
Tuesday, November 8, 2022  
7:00 PM - REMOTE MEETING via ZOOM

AGENDA

- 1) Open Forum – Public Comment
- 2) Review of Planning Departments CPA Requests Relevant to Park Commission Properties – David Morgan and Claire Ricker
- 3) Request for Support Resolution for National Grid Repair Environmental Impact – David Morgan
- 4) Capital Project Updates
  - A - Spy and Parmenter Playgrounds
  - B - Robbins Playground Design
  - C – Arlington Reservoir Phase II
  - D - Stratton, Peirce, Bishop ARPA Project
  - E – Hurd Field Project
  - F – Poets Corner
  - G – Arlington Court Needs Assessment
  - H – FY 2024 CPA Requests – Hills Hill, Menotomy, Turkey Hill
- 5) Approval of Minutes – 10/25/2022
- 6) Special Event Approval – Arlington Homeless Coalition –Florence 11/18
- 7) Bench Donation Request – Arlington Reservoir – Anthony Puttick
- 8) Comments and Items for Future Meetings:
  - a) Open Space and Recreation Plan
  - b) Historical Commission Discussion - Menotomy Rocks Park
  - c) Off Leash Proposal Parallel Park
- 9) Correspondence Received: Hills Hill – Wynelle Evans, Brian McBride, Rebecca Peterson, Kristin Anderson, Marjorie How; Reservoir Beach Handrails, Lisa – Playground Lighting, Monique Ouimette
- 10) New Business

You are invited to a Zoom meeting.  
When: Nov 8, 2022 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Register in advance for this meeting:  
<https://town-arlington-ma-us.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcufumhpzqG9Qb0sSEmTORzHHIMoceOY0h>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

# Community Preservation Act Committee Town of Arlington

## CPA Funding – FY2024 Preliminary Application

One (1) electronic copy of the completed application must be submitted to the CPAC **no later than October 7, 2022** in order to be considered for advancement to the final application stage, with the electronic copy sent to [JWayman@town.arlington.ma.us](mailto:JWayman@town.arlington.ma.us).

This PDF form may be completed on a computer using [Adobe Reader](#).

### 1. General Information

Project Title: Feasibility Study for the Preservation of No Name Brook

Applicant/Contact: David Morgan, Environmental Planner

Organization: Open Space Committee

Mailing Address: 730 Massachusetts Avenue

Telephone: 781-316-3012 E-mail: dmorgan@town.arlington.ma.us

### 2. CPA Eligibility (refer to the chart on page A-3)

CPA Category (select one):


☐ Community Housing    ☐ Historic Preservation    ☒ Open Space    ☐ Recreation

CPA Purpose (select one):

☐ Acquisition    ☐ Creation    ☒ Preservation    ☐ Support    ☐ Rehabilitation & Restoration

### 3. Budget

Amount Requested: \$10,000    Total Project Cost: \$10,000

Signature     David Morgan  
2022.09.26 12:47:22 -04'00'    Date 09/26/2022

*Please complete the project description on the following page*



No Name Brook is a ~1,600 linear foot water body that runs parallel to the Minuteman Bikeway in Arlington Heights. Already severely degraded, the brook is prone to further damage resulting from bank destabilization, invasive species, blockage, stormwater pollution, and infrastructure failure. No Name is in critical need of preservation to prevent further deterioration. Its improvement would also facilitate Town plans to preserve the character of the Minuteman Bikeway, as is reflected in the recently completed Minuteman Bikeway Plan. The Open Space Committee seeks \$20,000 in CPA funding to conduct a feasibility study for the preservation of No Name Brook and the appurtenant infrastructure. The feasibility study will assess the condition of No Name Brook and create a conceptual plan. A public engagement campaign is also planned.

#### Existing Conditions Assessment + Concept Design

The assessment of existing conditions at No Name Brook would address many concerns, several of which are identified as action items in the Minuteman Bikeway plan, including:

- Improving the character and quality of the stretch from the Mill Brook crossing to Bow Street
- Replacing the railing at Lowell Street underpass
- Providing natural areas and views, as well as wayside components like wayfinding and interpretive signage.

Each of these action items is designed to remedy known issues along the reach of No Name Brook. As can be seen in the included photographs, the stretch from Mill Brook crossing to Bow Street is choked with Japanese Knotweed. The invasive plant grows on both sides of the bikeway. Its roots reach under the paved bikeway surface. Cracks can be seen in the pavement from the spreading roots and repairs will soon be needed. The pervasiveness of the knotweed also degrades the brook's ecological integrity and aesthetic value. It causes a lack of biodiversity and limits the ability to provide natural areas along the path. The knotweed is additionally a safety hazard. It



Figure 1 A shopping cart left in No Name Brook, surrounded by Japanese Knotweed

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grows over the bikeway, limiting views and available space for users to travel. It currently requires maintenance by DPW several times a year.

At the Lowell Street underpass, the bikeway pavement and guardrail are collapsing on the brook side owing to the flow of water under the asphalt. The railing was meant to be temporary when it was installed but has become a permanent fixture. It is now close to failure and, accordingly, the Minuteman Bikeway Plan identified the underpass as an area of concern.

Nearer to Park Avenue, a (possibly illicit) stormwater drain has been installed under the bikeway, connecting the parking lot at 30 Park Avenue to No Name Brook. Here, too, the pavement is collapsing. The sink hole is marked with an orange hazard cone. The drain is causing erosion and scouring of the banks of No Name Brook at the outfall.

Tree trunks, shopping carts, trash, and knotweed debris are commonly found in the brook. In addition to the feasibility study addressing the foregoing structural concerns, the concept design will entail a different approach to maintenance of No Name Brook, one that advances the Bikeway Plan goal to provide natural areas and views.

Hatch Engineering has visited No Name Brook and provided a cost estimate of \$15,000 for the existing conditions assessment and conceptual design. The design would be an extension of the Bikeway Plan proposal for Mill Brook crossing, just northwest of No Name Brook. As discussed with Hatch, other priorities for the feasibility study include:

- Landscape concept design for a preserved brook and bikeway amenity\*
  - o Bank stabilization and path repair\*
  - o Native plantings appropriate for roadsides
- Considering realignment of the bikeway to allow for more open space next to the brook\*
- Formalizing the bikeway connections at Nourse Street and Lowell Street Place\*
  - o Repairs to the barriers at the end of both roads, which have been damaged by snow removal
- Rain gardens to collect and treat stormwater runoff into No Name Brook
- Preliminary evaluation of a hydraulic connection to Mill Brook for stormwater management purposes

\* Identified in the Minuteman Bikeway Plan

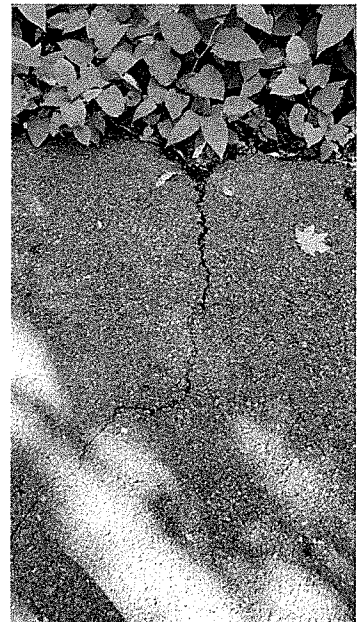


Figure 2 A crack in the bikeway surface next to a stand of Japanese Knotweed

### Public Engagement

The Conservation Commission's Water Bodies Working Group (WBWG) has suggested that No Name Brook be renamed. The first step in a public engagement campaign related to the proposed feasibility study would be to solicit names from the community. The Department of Planning and Community Development would manage outreach and the contest process. A winning name

would be chosen by the WBWG and subject to Select Board approval if necessary. The name would be formally recorded with the USGS Board on Geographic Names.

Information about desired improvements to No Name Brook would be collected during the campaign. Two forums would be held on the topic, one during the campaign and one after. The consultant hired for assessment and design would be responsible for facilitating the forums and compiling feedback to inform the project's development. Each forum is estimated at \$2,500, inclusive of outreach materials.

### Community Need

This project will improve an area adjacent to recently renovated recreational amenities in Arlington, including the Reservoir and Hurd Field. It will serve as an attraction for increased use of the bikeway in the section that provides access to Ottoson Middle School, the Arlington Heights business district, the new housing project at 1165R Mass Ave., and the neighborhoods north of the Bikeway and around Lowell Street. Residents regularly express strong support for improvements to spaces along the bikeway, especially those where views are provided, and users can rest. Another frequent request is for improved safety and access for all users, and better integrating amenities and destinations along the bikeway.

The community-vetted Bikeway plan includes many of the improvements scoped here. Page 81 of the plan shows proposed changes to No Name Brook at Lowell Street. Page 72 maps recommendations to improve access at Nourse Street and Lowell Street Place.

This project would also advance the Connect Arlington strategy B.3 to "Complete the Minuteman Bikeway Planning Project and implement recommendations that increase access to and capacity and safety on the pathway." Similarly, the Open Space and Recreation Plan Action Item 2.B.5. is to "Implement the Minuteman Bikeway Planning Project to increase safety and accessibility of the Bikeway."

### Timeline

Public engagement and the existing conditions assessment would be started within two months of the award of funds. The invasive vegetation removal proposal would follow within a month of project kickoff. The concept development and design would last nine months to the end of the fiscal year. Cost estimates and project scoping will be part of the project deliverables and so will run concurrently with development and design at the end of the year.

### Costs

A preliminary cost estimate has been made at \$20,000 for the feasibility study and public engagement. This project would set the stage for a planning project and further public engagement.

Initial Costs	Estimated Cost
Existing Conditions Assessment of No Name Brook	\$5,000
Concept Development and Design	\$7,500
Invasive Vegetation Removal Proposal	\$1,000
Cost Estimation and Project Scoping	\$1,500

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Public Engagement Campaign	\$5,000
<b>Total Initial Cost</b>	<b>\$ 20,000</b>

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This PDF form may be completed on a computer using Adobe Reader.

### 1. General Information

Project Title: Buffer and Beautify Mill Brook

Applicant/Contact: David Morgan

Organization: Arlington Conservation Commission

Mailing Address: 730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington, MA 02476

Telephone: 781-316-3012 E-mail: dmorgan@town.arlington.ma.us

### 2. CPA Eligibility (refer to the chart on page A-3)

CPA Category (select one):

☐ Community Housing      ☐ Historic Preservation      ☒ Open Space      ☐ Recreation


CPA Purpose (select one):

☐ Acquisition      ☐ Creation      ☐ Preservation      ☐ Support      ☒ Rehabilitation & Restoration

### 3. Budget

Amount Requested: \$102,500

Total Project Cost: \$102,500

Signature  David Morgan  
2022.10.04 11:20:38 -04'00' Date 10/04/2022

*Please complete the project description on the following page*



The Arlington Conservation Commission proposes to preserve the degraded and heavily eroded areas of the banks of Mill Brook from further damage. The project will be accomplished by using bioengineered bank stabilization treatments, enhancement plantings, select invasive species management, and green infrastructure stormwater management. Select invasive species control and planting of native wetland and upland plant species will improve habitat and increase plant diversity while beautifying the area next to the newly renovated Reservoir and Hurd Field, and the soon to be renovated Drake Village. CPA funds would be used to survey, permit, and construct the improvements.

This proposal can be seen as an extension of the community-vetted and popular work at Arlington Reservoir and Hurd Field. Mill Brook runs along the border of these two properties; most of the project lies within the Town-owned Reservoir parcel with a portion of the brook falling on the adjacent Hurd Field parcel. The surrounding properties have been recently improved to include elements of this proposal. The Res has extensive new plantings and is managed for invasive species. Hurd Field was redesigned to incorporate green infrastructure, native plantings, and optimal stormwater management.

Mill Brook itself was not touched during either of these projects. It remains in poor condition. The banks are eroding, and invasive species have a firm grip on the area and threaten to spread back into the newly improved recreational areas.



Figure 1 Mill Brook at Arlington Reservoir and Hurd Field

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The stretch of Mill Brook to be preserved runs approximately 1,200 linear feet (lf) from the Lexington border to Colonial Village, and the area in question is about 1.5 acres immediately next to the brook. A consultant team will be needed to survey the area and ready permit applications for the Conservation Commission. With regard to project scope and construction, preservation of this section of the brook will follow the design of the successful shoreline stabilization work at Spy Pond.

The bank stabilization involves the placement of coir fascines at the edges of Mill Brook and regrading to achieve desirable slopes for stormwater and flood management. The proposed project will strengthen approximately 1,200 lf of bank. The design intent is to place the coir fascine at the ordinary water level to accommodate typical water level fluctuations until root development has been established. All regraded areas will be densely planted.

Existing upland areas on the banks of Mill Brook will be cleared of invasive herbaceous species. Infill planting of native tree tubelings, 2 ft. high containerized trees, livestock shrubs, containerized shrubs, and herbaceous plugs will occur in these areas and in areas of existing compacted footpaths and gullies to be scarified and stabilized. Additionally, upland areas may be identified for regrading and/or green infrastructure improvements where meadow seeding and tall turf seeding will occur.

Nuisance or noxious vegetation that could potentially cause harm to the public and/or maintenance crews will be controlled, especially poison ivy. Invasive species will be removed and monitored using a combination of chemical, manual, and mechanical methods. A successful invasive removal strategy takes years to accomplish. Attention will be paid to how to maintain the improved property with minimal maintenance inputs.

### **Community Need**

In addition to the public benefit of lowering maintenance costs for the Res and Hurd Field, removing nuisance and harmful vegetation, and improving ecological integrity, the following action items in the Open Space and Recreation Plan will be advanced by this proposal.

1.A.2. Continue to implement strategies from the Mill Brook Corridor Report to expand public access and restore and enhance the natural features of the corridor, such as at Cooke's Hollow.

1.A.4. Complete implementation of the Arlington Reservoir Master Plan.

1.D.3. Use native and pollinator-friendly vegetation appropriate for an urban environment in Town landscaping projects.

3.A.2. Support implementation of the Public Land Management Plan, including follow up to develop site-specific management plans for the Town's conservation areas to identify unique challenges, such as larger clean-up efforts, invasive species control and impacts of chemical controls on wildlife, trail maintenance and the impact of artificial surfaces on heat island effects and the quality of wildlife habitat, erosion and sedimentation control, and native planting projects.

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3.A.5. Evaluate overall Town property operations and maintenance of recreational facilities, conservation areas, and other public spaces to ensure the upkeep and ongoing maintenance and to identify opportunities for more environment-friendly approaches and reducing energy consumption. Some considerations are to:

- Identify needed staff (full-time, part-time, seasonal) to meet community needs.
- Identify needs for enforcement of proper use of public spaces.
- Control invasive plants with non-toxic means.
- Purchase electric or more energy efficient equipment and vehicles.
- Install energy efficient lighting.
- Follow anti-idling practices.
- Install nature-based solutions/green infrastructure to manage stormwater.
- Use native plants in landscaping.
- Implement sustainable turf maintenance (watering, pest management, etc.).

Additionally, Action Item #40 of the Master Plan directs the Department of Planning and Community Development, Conservation Commission, and DPW to “use more native and natural choices for landscaping on Town-owned properties.”

Mill Brook’s preservation at Arlington Reservoir and Hurd Field will finish recent renovations to some of the most used and most beloved recreational areas in town. It will accomplish goals laid out in Town plans and advance necessary work in arenas like public land management, water quality, and flood damage prevention by removing invasive vegetation and stabilizing the banks of the brook. The project’s positive effects can be witnessed in person—Spy Pond’s banks were successfully preserved using the same methods, and similar results can be expected for Mill Brook.

### **Estimated Costs**

The following identifies a specific budget broken down by tasks and timing.

Task One	Existing Conditions and Analysis		6 weeks
	Existing Conditions Plan and Survey	\$5,000	
	Site Characterization Report and Meetings	\$7,500	
Task Two	Development of Concept Alternatives	\$5,000	4 weeks
Task Three	Permitting	\$10,000	8 weeks
Task Four	Construction	\$75,000	16 weeks
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$102,500</b>	

 (9)

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### 1. General Information

Project Title: Preservation of Town Open Spaces Through Invasive Vegetation Removal

Applicant/Contact: David Morgan, Environmental Planner

Organization: Arlington Conservation Commission

Mailing Address: 730 Massachusetts Avenue, Arlington, MA 02476

Telephone: 781-316-3012 E-mail: dmorgan@town.arlington.ma.us

### 2. CPA Eligibility (refer to the chart on page A-3)

CPA Category (select one):


☐ Community Housing      ☐ Historic Preservation      ☒ Open Space      ☐ Recreation

CPA Purpose (select one):

☐ Acquisition      ☐ Creation      ☒ Preservation      ☐ Support      ☐ Rehabilitation & Restoration

### 3. Budget

Amount Requested: \$125,000      Total Project Cost: \$125,000

Signature       David Morgan  
2022.09.26 10:51:59 -04'00'      Date 09/26/2022

*Please complete the project description on the following page*



The Town of Arlington Conservation Commission seeks \$125,000 in Community Preservation Act funding for preservation of open space through the removal of invasive vegetation. The bulk of the award would fund the purchase of an aquatic harvester, which is a boat-like machine that pulls up aquatic vegetation by its roots. A machine of this kind is used each year at Arlington Reservoir, under contract with SOLitude Lake Management. The remainder of the award would be used to survey open spaces in Arlington to locate, identify, and map invasive species for removal. This funding would result in a baseline assessment of Arlington's invasive vegetation, a next chapter for the CPA-funded Public Land Management Plan, and a crucial first step toward getting the issue under control. This proposal advances several action items in the Open Space and Recreation Plan, as detailed at the end of this document.

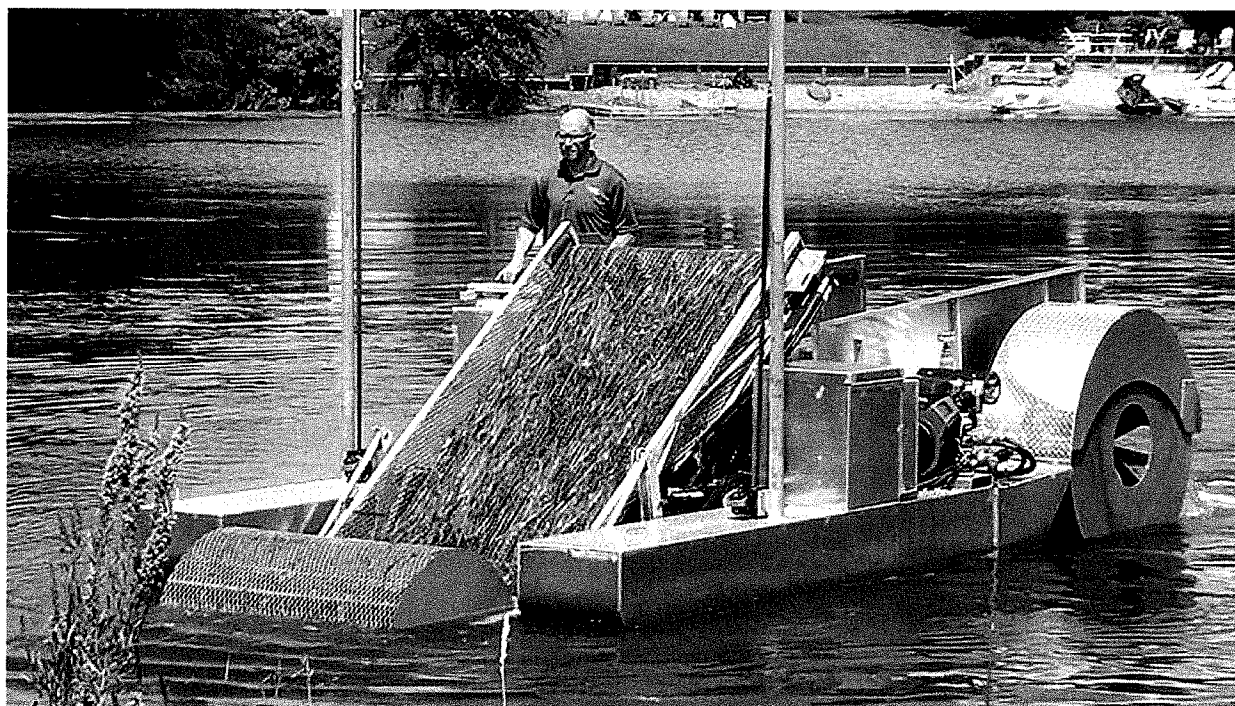


Figure 1 An EcoHarvester in action

A Town-owned harvester would permit more regular removal of invasive plants, ensuring that the condition of the water bodies is preserved, and that they remain open for recreation. Despite regular management and considerable cost, the challenge of invasive management has not been overcome in either Arlington Reservoir or Spy Pond. The harvester would allow for more regular and timely treatment, eliminating the difficulty of annual contract renewal and contractor availability. Public ownership of the harvester would also allow for mechanical harvesting of multiple water bodies. Currently, only the Reservoir gets this treatment; invasives at Spy Pond are managed chemically. The efficiencies achieved at the Reservoir would be extended to Spy Pond, which would require fewer chemical inputs. Bringing this service in-house would cost the Town considerably less than maintaining current contracts. Arlington presently spends \$25,000 on invasive control at the Reservoir, and another \$27,500 in Spy Pond. These costs are set to

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double in the coming years. Operation and maintenance costs of the harvester are quite low (<\$1,500/year) and the only additional cost is in-kind staff time.

The Department of Public Works currently assists contractors with invasive removal at Arlington Reservoir. DPW has committed to staffing the harvester for two weeks a year. The manufacturer of the harvester offers onsite training as part of the purchase. The equipment requires no license or certification to operate. The job can be performed by any DPW employee who can operate a truck.



Figure 2 Invasive vegetation along the Minuteman Bikeway - nearly everything pictured is an invasive species

The CPA-funded Public Land Management Plan identified whether invasive species were present on certain Town-owned open spaces. Nearly all spaces that were indexed contained invasive species. The type, extent, and best removal technique remain to be determined. Such a survey as is proposed here would build on the findings of the Public Land Management Plan. It would extend the scope to all public lands and recommend best practices for invasive species removal. The survey would provide data for a Town GIS layer showing where invasive species are present, how they are being managed, and which entity is responsible.

Initial Costs	Estimated Cost
Harvester purchase price	\$107,298 (plus \$6,970 tax)
Harvester service fees	\$4,224
Invasive vegetation survey	\$6,507.87
<b>Total Initial Cost</b>	<b>\$ 125,000</b>

The community benefit of both projects is long-term cost savings. The aquatic harvester reduces ongoing and increasing operational costs by making a one-time capital purchase. The invasive vegetation survey establishes a framework for conducting public land management that prevents damage to infrastructure and loss of ecological and aesthetic value. Both projects also enhance

29 (b)

Arlington's ecological integrity, without which residents suffer from a lower quality of life and are more exposed to climate change induced harms, such as extreme heat.

The following action items in the Open Space and Recreation Plan will be advanced by this proposal.

3.A.2. Support implementation of the Public Land Management Plan, including follow up to develop site-specific management plans for the Town's conservation areas to identify unique challenges, such as larger clean-up efforts, invasive species control and impacts of chemical controls on wildlife, trail maintenance and the impact of artificial surfaces on heat island effects and the quality of wildlife habitat, erosion and sedimentation control, and native planting projects.

3.A.5. Evaluate overall Town property operations and maintenance of recreational facilities, conservation areas, and other public spaces to ensure the upkeep and ongoing maintenance and to identify opportunities for more environment-friendly approaches and reducing energy consumption. Some considerations are to:

- Identify needed staff (full-time, part-time, seasonal) to meet community needs.
- Identify needs for enforcement of proper use of public spaces.
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- Purchase electric or more energy efficient equipment and vehicles.
- Install energy efficient lighting.
- Follow anti-idling practices.
- Install nature-based solutions/green infrastructure to manage stormwater.
- Use native plants in landscaping.
- Implement sustainable turf maintenance (watering, pest management, etc.).

# Community Preservation Act Committee Town of Arlington

## CPA Funding – FY2024 Preliminary Application

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This PDF form may be completed on a computer using Adobe Reader.

### 1. General Information

Project Title: Find Your Way to the Orchard!

Applicant/Contact: David Morgan

Organization: Open Space Committee

Mailing Address: 730 Massachusetts Ave, Arlington, MA 02476

Telephone: 781-316-3012 E-mail: dmorgan@town.arlington.ma.us

### 2. CPA Eligibility (refer to the chart on page A-3)

CPA Category (select one):

☐ Community Housing      ☐ Historic Preservation      ☒ Open Space      ☐ Recreation

CPA Purpose (select one):

☐ Acquisition      ☐ Creation      ☐ Preservation      ☐ Support      ☒ Rehabilitation & Restoration

### 3. Budget

Amount Requested: \$2,500

Total Project Cost: \$2,500

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date 10/03/2022

*Please complete the project description on the following page*

**Brief Project Description and Rationale**

Include the address/location and current owner of the property, as well as any critical dates. Describe the benefit of the project to the community. Attach supplemental information (photographs, drawings, documents, etc.) as desired. Include a brief rationale for your responses to the CPA category and purpose checkboxes on the cover page.

Enter your response below this line

The Open Space Committee is advancing a CPA proposal for funding wayfinding signage directing Minuteman Bikeway users and Brattle Street visitors to the Arlington Orchard. Girl Scout Troop 62592 developed the proposal. Funds would be used to design, fabricate, and install up to five signs on the Bikeway and at turning points along Brattle Street.

Troop 62592 identified the need for wayfinding signs while the Open Space Committee was independently and simultaneously having a discussion about the need for the same. In the spring of 2022, the scouts surveyed neighbors and residents about Arlington Orchard and found that residents were largely unaware of the space. Of the 15% of survey respondents who knew about the Orchard, more than half still didn't know how to get there.

The scouts proposed locations for three signs, but more will be needed. The Open Space Committee will work with the Department of Planning and Community Development to identify the best placement, then design and fabricate up to five signs. The Minuteman Bikeway Plan discusses the need for wayfinding and establishes a taxonomy for signs. The directional signage proposed here would hew closely to the Bikeway Plan proposals, but may also incorporate unique, creative elements to show the Orchard's character and community spirit.

As a capital improvement expense, this project fits within the Restoration & Rehabilitation CPA purpose for Open Space. The signage is estimated to cost \$100 each, including the sign and post. The Open Space Committee will ask DPW to supply in-kind labor for installation. The estimated \$2,000 remaining will cover a participatory design process.



**From:** David Morgan <dmorgan@town.arlington.ma.us>  
**To:** Joe Connelly <JConnelly@town.arlington.ma.us>, Daniel Amstutz <DAmstutz@town.arlington.ma.us>  
**Date:** 10/13/2022 10:38 AM  
**Subject:** Re: FY24 CPA Applications

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Hi Joe,

I'll let Dan speak to the Ryder Street question, but I thought I'd give you the details I have about the ownership of the Pond Lane lot. I dug into the history of that site before submitting the application. My understanding is that the Select Board acquired the two parcels (26-28 Pond Lane - Lot A, and 21 Pond Lane - Lot B) separately. Lot A was put under Recreation while Lot B is still with the Select Board. The proposal I submitted is for Lot B. I know Recreation was involved in some conversations around a proposed affordable housing development a while back, and I think that was because both lots were involved.

I'm attaching the details I found. The Assessor's office poked around for documentation about 21 Pond Lane being moved from the Select Board to another department but couldn't find anything, so my thinking is it has lived with them since 1979.

I definitely want to talk with Park & Rec about the proposal. It was submitted by a resident and I can give more background. If the proposal gets the green light to become a full application, I think that'd be a good time to start thinking about it together.

Cheers,  
David

David Morgan | Environmental Planner + Conservation Agent | Department of Planning and Community Development | 781.316.3012 | [dmorgan@town.arlington.ma.us](mailto:dmorgan@town.arlington.ma.us)  
*Arlington values equity, diversity, and inclusion. We are committed to building a community where everyone is heard, respected, and protected.*

On 10/12/2022 12:07 PM, Joe Connelly wrote:

Hi David and Daniel,

Are you available to come to a Park and Recreation Commission and talk about your CPA requests? They came up last night and although some do not impact Park Commission property, some may have an impact. They are very concerned about the Ryder Street one and questioning the Pond Lane one as we thought that was our property.

Thanks,

Joseph Connelly, M. Ed.  
Director of Recreation  
Town of Arlington

***Arlington values equity, diversity, and inclusion. We are committed to building a community where everyone is heard, respected, and protected.***

From: David Morgan <[dmorgan@town.arlington.ma.us](mailto:dmorgan@town.arlington.ma.us)>  
To: Joe Connelly <[JConnelly@town.arlington.ma.us](mailto:JConnelly@town.arlington.ma.us)>  
Date: Wed, 5 Oct 2022 08:55:42 -0400



## Southern Middlesex - 20/20 Perfect Vision i2 Document Detail Report

Current datetime: 10/13/2022 8:50:11 AM

Doc#	Document Type	Town	Book/Page	File Date	Consideration
60362034	DEED		13323/650	11/01/1977	55000.00
<b>Property-Street Address and/or Description</b>					
POND LN LOTS 1 THRU 6 PL 5028 END, AVON PLACE EXTN, SEE RECORD					
<b>Grantors</b>					
CREECH ELEANOR, GARNEAU MARY E, GOVONI ALICE M, GOVONI ARTHUR A, GOVONI CATHERINE, GOVONI CHARLES, GOVONI EDWARD F JR, GOVONI JAMES, GOVONI KATHERINE, KEEFE MARY A					
<b>Grantees</b>					
ARLINGTON TOWN					
<b>References-Book/Pg Description Recorded Year</b>					
<b>Registered Land Certificate(s)-Cert# Book/Pg</b>					

17

2016.75

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We, Arthur A. Govoni, of Winchester, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, Charles Govoni, Mary Ann Keefe, Alice M. Govoni, Mary E. Garneau and Edward F. Govoni, Jr., all of Somerville, in said County and State, Catherine Govoni, also known as Katherine Govoni, of Arlington, in said County and State, James Govoni, of Watertown in said County and State and Eleanor Creech, of Epson, in the State of New Hampshire

For Consideration Paid, and in full consideration of  
-----FIFTY-FIVE THOUSAND (\$55,000.00)-----DOLLARS  
paid, Grant to The Town of Arlington, Middlesex County, in the  
State of Massachusetts, With Quitclaim Covenants

The land in Arlington, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, with the buildings thereon, comprising Lots 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6 as shown on a plan entitled "Sub-division of Land in Arlington, Mass., owned by Daniel J. Brown, " dated July 1926, by J. M. Keane, C. E., which plan is recorded with Middlesex South District Deeds at the end of Book 5028, and said lots are together bounded and described as follows:

- SOUTHEASTERLY by Pond Lane, as shown on said plan, by various lines measuring 16.42 feet, 39 feet, 62.87 feet, 19 feet and 33.13 feet respectively;
- SOUTHWESTERLY by land now or formerly of the Boston & Lowell Railroad Company, as shown on said plan, 204.60 feet;
- NORTHWESTERLY by Avon Place Extension and by land of owner unknown, as shown on said plan, 155.65 feet; and
- NORTHEASTERLY by Lot 4, as shown on said plan, about 123 feet.

Containing together 25,250 square feet of land more or less according to said plan.

Subject to taxes assessed for the fiscal year 1978.

Being the same premises conveyed to Vincent Govoni and Adele Govoni by deed recorded with said Deeds, Book 5124, Page 201. Said Vincent Govoni died March 3, 1975. For our title see Estate of Adele Govoni Middlesex Probate Docket #488236. See also Probate of Estate of Edward F. Govoni, sometimes known as Edward M. Govoni, Middlesex Probate Docket #496257.

WITNESS our hands and common seals this 31 day of October 1977.

Edward F. Govoni Jr. Eleanor Creech  
Mary E. Garneau Katherine Govoni  
Margaret Keefe James Govoni  
Arthur A. Govoni Alice M. Govoni  
Charles Govoni

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Middlesex, ss

October 31, 1977.

Then personally appeared the above named ARTHUR A. GOVONI and acknowledged the foregoing instrument to be his free act and deed, before me.

John Russell  
 Notary Public.  
 My Commission Expires 10/01/1983

On the motion of Bernard A. Forest, Chairman of the Finance Committee, duly seconded, it was

VOTED: That Article 74 be taken from the table.

ARTICLE 74. (Acquisition of Land; Pond Lane)

By consent of the meeting the motion of the Finance Committee was considered withdrawn, and on the new motion of Mr. Forest, duly seconded, it was

VOTED: (Standing Vote, 158 in the affirmative and 21 in the negative) That the Board of Selectmen be and hereby is authorized and empowered on behalf of the Town to purchase or take in fee by eminent domain or otherwise acquire for park or other purposes the parcel of land hereinafter described, any portion thereof, any interest or easements therein, and any rights or easements of way or otherwise as appurtenant thereto, and subject to or with any reservation of any rights or easements therein; said land to be under the jurisdiction and control of the Park and Recreation Commission; that for this purpose the sum of twenty-six thousand (\$26,000.00) dollars be and hereby is appropriated; said sum to be raised by general tax and expended under the direction of the Park and Recreation Commission; and that said Commission be and hereby is authorized to apply to any Massachusetts or Federal Agency for any grants or reimbursements that may be, or may become, available. Said land is bounded and described as follows:

"Beginning at a point in the easterly sideline of Pond Lane, said point being the common corner of Lot A and Lot B, thence southerly by said sideline distant of 118.95 feet more or less to a point, thence southerly by said sideline distant 39.36 feet to a point in the northerly sideline of land of the Boston and Maine R. R., thence easterly by said sideline distant 60.11 feet to a point, thence easterly by said sideline distant 100.24 feet to a point, thence northerly distant 187.50 feet to a point, thence westerly distant 99.45 feet to a point, thence northerly 24.56 feet to a point, thence westerly distant 27.01 feet to a point in the rear line of Lot B, thence southerly by said rear line distant 80.00 feet to a point in the southerly sideline of Lot B, thence westerly by said sideline distant 100. feet more or less to the point of beginning, said parcel being designated as Lot A containing 33,600 square feet of land more or less, substantially as shown on a plan entitled "Plan of Land in Arlington, Mass., Scale: 1" = 40', August 25, 1939, M. Waters, C. E., 24 School Street, Boston", a copy of which is currently filed as Plan 5235 in the Office of the Town Manager.

There being no further business under Article 74, the Moderator declared it disposed of.

ARTICLE 14. (By-Law Amendment; Personal Leave of Absence)

A motion for reconsideration of Article 14, offered by Robert D. Klein, town meeting member in Precinct 13, duly seconded, was declared lost by the Moderator on a voice vote.

There being no further business under Article 14, the Moderator declared it disposed of.

ARTICLE 6. (By-Law Amendment; Classification Plan; Additional Pay for Operating Compressor)

A motion for reconsideration of Article 6, offered by Eugene Ferola, town meeting member in Precinct 6, duly seconded, was declared lost by the Moderator on a voice vote.

There being no further business under Article 6, the Moderator declared it disposed of.

A motion offered by Ronald A. Nigro, town meeting member in Precinct 15, duly seconded, to take Article 59 from the table was declared by the Moderator to have carried on a standing vote, 109 having voted in the affirmative and 50 in the negative.

ARTICLE 59. AMENDMENT OF ZONING BY-LAW (Definition - Family)

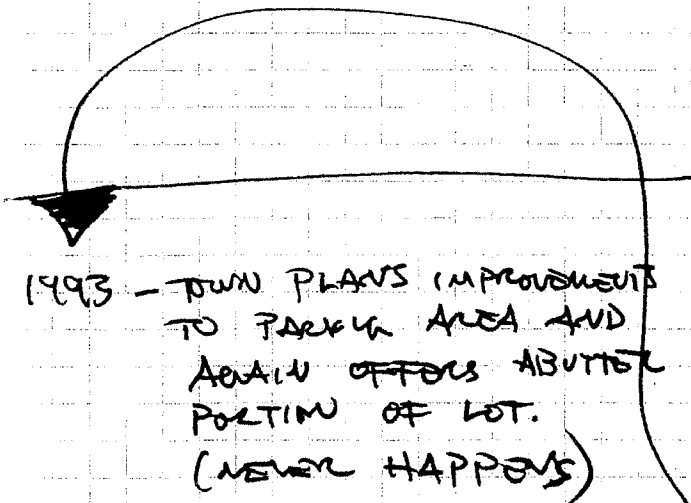
19

## POND LANE

2 LOTS: 21 POND LANE (OLD ADDRESS)  
26-28 POND LANE (OLD ADDRESS)

### 21 POND LANE

- ORIGINAL 2-FAM. HOUSE  
w/ BARN
- 1977 - TOWN SEEKS ENVIRONMENTAL  
REVIEW FOR SITE AS PART  
OF CDBG PROGRAM.
- 1978 - TOWN PURCHASES PROPERTY  
w/ CDBG FUNDS  
BOOK 13323 PAGE 650  
11/1/77
- 1979 - BARN DEMOLISHED



- 1993 - TOWN PLANS IMPROVEMENTS  
TO PARKING AREA AND  
AGAIN OFFERS ABUTMENT  
PORTION OF LOT.  
(NEVER HAPPENS)

### 26-28 POND LANE

- 1974 - TOWN MEETING APPROVED  
PURCHASE FOR PARKING AND  
TO SERVICE SPY POND <sup>OTHER  
PROPS</sup>
- (PREVIOUSLY ARLINGTON PIPE &  
SUPPLY COMPANY) BURNED DOWN
- ASSUMED AT THE TIME THAT  
THE RED LINE WOULD  
FOLLOW THE PATH OF THE  
BIKEWAY, SUNK UNDERGROUND  
THEREFORE ALLOWED DIRECT  
ACCESS TO SPY POND.
- CONTROLLED BY PARKS & REC  
COMMISSION
- 1976 - REC. FACILITIES COMMITTEE  
(MARCH) APPLIES FOR PERMIT TO  
CONSTRUCT PARKING LOT  
IN RE ZONE - DENIED.  
"TOO MUCH TRAFFIC"  
(SPECIAL PERMIT REQUIRED)
- (APRIL) - 2ND REQUEST FOR PERMIT  
BOARD HAD CONCERNS w/  
BOAT TRAILERS. HEARING  
CONTINUED.
- (MAY) - ZBA APPROVES SPECIAL  
PERMIT FOR 34-CAR  
PARKING LOT - NO BOAT  
TRAILER PARKING.
- 1987 - TOWN CONSIDERS EASING  
LAND TO BODY SHOP
- 1988 - TOWN REVEALS BECAUSE  
BIKEPATH IS IN WORKS

# Community Preservation Act Committee Town of Arlington

## CPA Funding – FY2024 Preliminary Application

One (1) electronic copy of the completed application must be submitted to the CPAC **no later than October 7, 2022** in order to be considered for advancement to the final application stage, with the electronic copy sent to [JWayman@town.arlington.ma.us](mailto:JWayman@town.arlington.ma.us).

This PDF form may be completed on a computer using Adobe Reader.

### 1. General Information

Project Title: Minuteman Bikeway at Ryder Street Redesign

Applicant/Contact: Daniel Amstutz, Senior Transportation Planner

Organization: Department of Planning & Community Development

Mailing Address: 730 Mass Ave, Town Hall Annex, Arlington, MA 02474

Telephone: 781-316-3093 E-mail: damstutz@town.arlington.ma.us

### 2. CPA Eligibility (refer to the chart on page A-3)

CPA Category (select one):

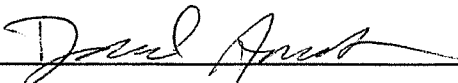
☐ Community Housing      ☐ Historic Preservation      ☐ Open Space      ☒ Recreation

CPA Purpose (select one):

☐ Acquisition      ☐ Creation      ☐ Preservation      ☐ Support      ☒ Rehabilitation & Restoration

### 3. Budget

Amount Requested: \$81,300      Total Project Cost: \$81,300

Signature  Date 10-7-22

*Please complete the project description on the following page*

## **Minuteman Bikeway at Ryder Street Redesign**

### **2023-2024 CPA PRELIMINARY PROJECT APPLICATION**

#### **General Information**

Project Title: Minuteman Bikeway at Ryder Street Redesign  
Applicant/Contact: Daniel Amstutz, Senior Transportation Planner  
Organization: Department of Planning & Community Development

#### **CPA Eligibility**

CPA Category: Recreational Land  
CPA Purpose: Rehabilitation and Restoration

#### **Budget**

Amount Requested: \$81,300

#### **Brief Project Description and Rationale**

The Minuteman Bikeway Planning Project was funded by the CPA in FY 2021 and completed in July 2022. This project developed a Minuteman Bikeway Plan for Arlington which lays out a clear direction forward for the future of the Bikeway to make it a safe and accessible path for all ages and abilities. As part of the development of the Bikeway Plan, several areas along the Bikeway were identified as potential locations for new and improved trailheads and waysides. These areas would include places for better Bikeway amenities, create gateways to the Bikeway, provide seating and resting areas, and enhance placemaking opportunities. One of the locations identified in the Plan is the intersection of the Bikeway with Ryder Street next to the Ed Burns Arena. A description of the existing area, recommendations for improvements, trailhead component opportunities, and next steps can be found on page 83 of the Minuteman Bikeway Plan, "Ryder Street/Summer Street Field/Burns Arena." The page from this plan is also included as an attachment to this application.

DPCD is seeking funds to commence a project to complete the next steps outlined in the Bikeway Plan for this area: conduct a land survey, create conceptual plans, and engage the public in this process. The scope of this project will be kept primarily to the Bikeway, as indicated on the marked-up version of the attached page from the Plan. Although the Plan recommends a pedestrian plaza at the end of Ryder Street next to the Burns Arena and the Bikeway, along with sidewalks up to the Ryder Street/Summer Street intersection, it is understood that these areas are under the jurisdiction of the Parks & Recreation Commission and would need to have a separate process to complete. In addition, the Recreation Department intends to conduct a study of the Burns Arena parking lot soon, which would have a different scope than this project. Therefore, the project is expected to keep to the following recommendations in the Plan:

- Create a splitter island and crossing for Bikeway access from Ryder Street
- Provide wayside pull-offs along the Minuteman Bikeway to support access and viewing of the playground, baseball field, and basketball court

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- Consideration of removing the fence between the Bikeway and the Summer Street Field for improved connectivity (to be discussed with the Recreation Department and Parks & Recreation Commission)
- Maintain ability for Public Works vehicles to enter and exit the Bikeway for maintenance

As part of the trailhead and wayside improvements, the project also intends to consider the ability of widening the Bikeway in the footprint of this project to improve access, safety, and the comfort of Bikeway users. Widening the Bikeway, similar to the improvements made at the Bikeway and Lake Street in 2020, can create options to separate out different user groups and increase the capacity of the Bikeway. The scope of the widening is planned to be from the Bikeway bridge over Forest Street in the west to Hill's Hill playground in the east, a length of approximately 1,200 linear feet.

The scope of this project includes the following key elements:

- Contracting with a landscape architect to complete the following:
  - Conduct a land survey of the scope of the project to identify property lines, utilities, existing structures, vegetation, etc.
  - Develop more detailed sketch and concept plans based on the schematic design and recommendations from the Bikeway Plan
  - Develop cost estimates for construction of the project in a future phase
- Public engagement on developing the concept plan for the project
- Coordination with key stakeholders, including the P & R Commission, Recreation Department, Public Works, and MBTA (as the landholder)

A project cost estimate and scope has been received from Greenman-Pedersen, Inc. (GPI) that serves as the rationale for the project budget. See the attached file for their description of the tasks.

### **Community Need**

This project will improve upon the existing Bikeway connection at Ryder Street to the many park resources already available at the Burns Arena and Hill's Hill. This project will also serve to improve the access at Ryder Street on the south side of the Bikeway that allows travel to Ottoson Middle School, the Arlington Heights business district, and the new housing project at 1165R Mass Ave. There is strong interest from the community to create spaces along the Bikeway for greater staying and resting, improved safety and access for all users, and better integrating amenities and destinations along the Bikeway.

This project is listed as a high priority in the implementation table for the Minuteman Bikeway Plan for Arlington. Under the project type "Expanding and Improving Access" this project description is "Promote Ryder Street access point to a premiere trailhead and construct waysides." This project would also advance the Connect Arlington strategy B.3 to "Complete the Minuteman Bikeway Planning Project and implement recommendations that increase access to and capacity and safety on the pathway." Finally, this project is supported by Action Item 2.B.5 of the Open Space and Recreation Plan, which is to "Implement the Minuteman Bikeway Planning Project to increase safety and accessibility of the Bikeway."



### **Timeline**

It is anticipated that this phase of the project will take approximately nine months from contract to completion.

### **Current Owner of the Property**

The Town of Arlington leases the property from the MBTA, which owns the rail corridor the Bikeway is placed on top of. The Bikeway is maintained and operated under the authority of the Town Manager. The MBTA has a process for approving changes to the property and encroachments, and Town staff will engage with the MBTA early on in this process to ensure they are aware of this project and can share any concerns prior to the Town seeking approval to make changes that are recommended from this project.



*Pictures showing the existing intersection of the Bikeway at Ryder Street*

*Clockwise from upper left: Ryder Street and Bikeway intersection; looking east towards Hill's Hill from the intersection; looking east from just past the Bobby Mac memorial; wide angle view of the intersection, also looking east towards Hill's Hill.*

## Ryder Street / Summer Street Field / Burns Arena

Ryder Street is an important cross connection between Summer Street and Massachusetts Avenue and - although closed to vehicles - the road provides both bike and pedestrian access to the Minuteman Bikeway. Given its location between Summer Street Field and the Ed Burns Arena, this location serves as both a trailhead and a major destination for recreation.

Given its ample parking, open space, restrooms & snack bar (link), playgrounds, and courts, this trailhead is a major destination for residents. Improvements that better express the relationship and synergy between the Bikeway and the facilities would be a win-win. Removing the fence would visually link the Bikeway and this major open space.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

- Incorporate missing pedestrian and bike connections between Summer Street and the Minuteman Bikeway.
- Develop a pedestrian plaza area alongside the Burns Arena.
- Create a splitter island and crossing for bikeway access from Ryder Street.
- Provide wayside pull-offs along the Minuteman Bikeway to support access and viewing of the playground, baseball field, and basketball court.
- Consider removing the fence between the Bikeway and the Summer Street Field for improved connectivity.
- Maintain ability for Public Works vehicles to enter and exit the Bikeway for maintenance

### TRAILHEAD COMPONENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Landmark pylon, locational kiosk, and interpretive kiosk wayfinding
- Seating
- Views
- Landscaping and plantings
- Pull-off area
- Trash receptacles
- Bike parking and repair station
- Bike share station
- Amenities to support existing multi-use fields

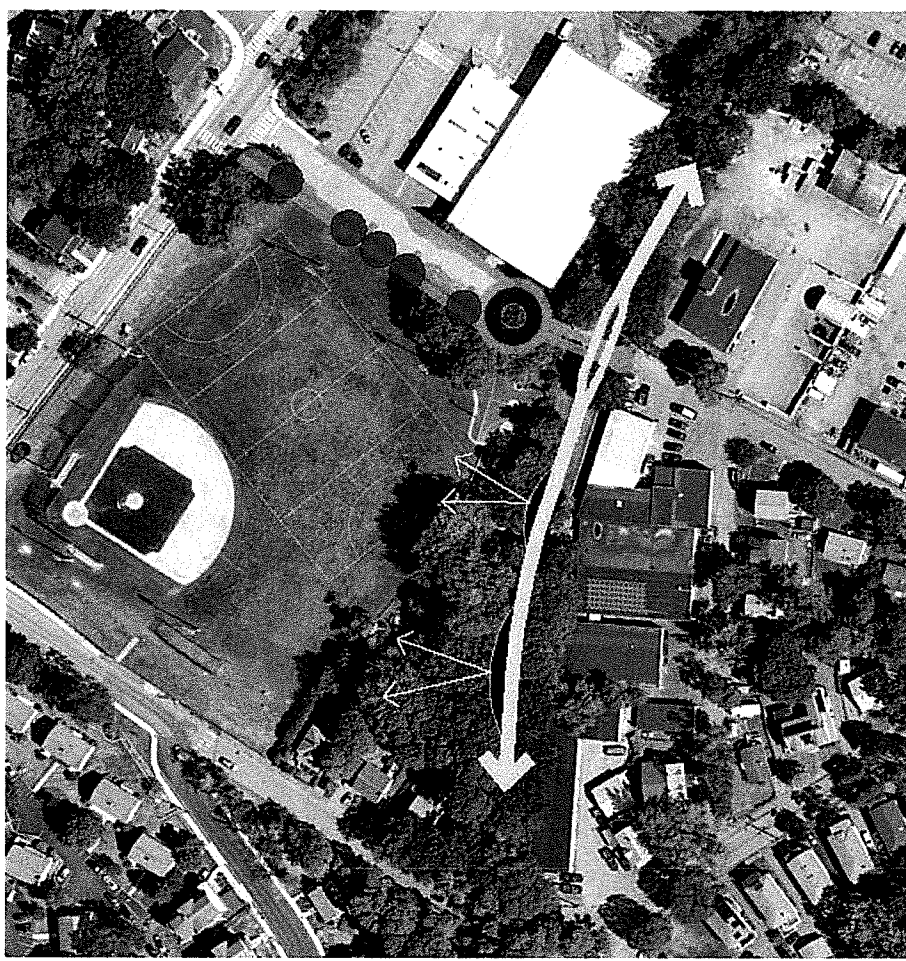
### NEXT STEPS

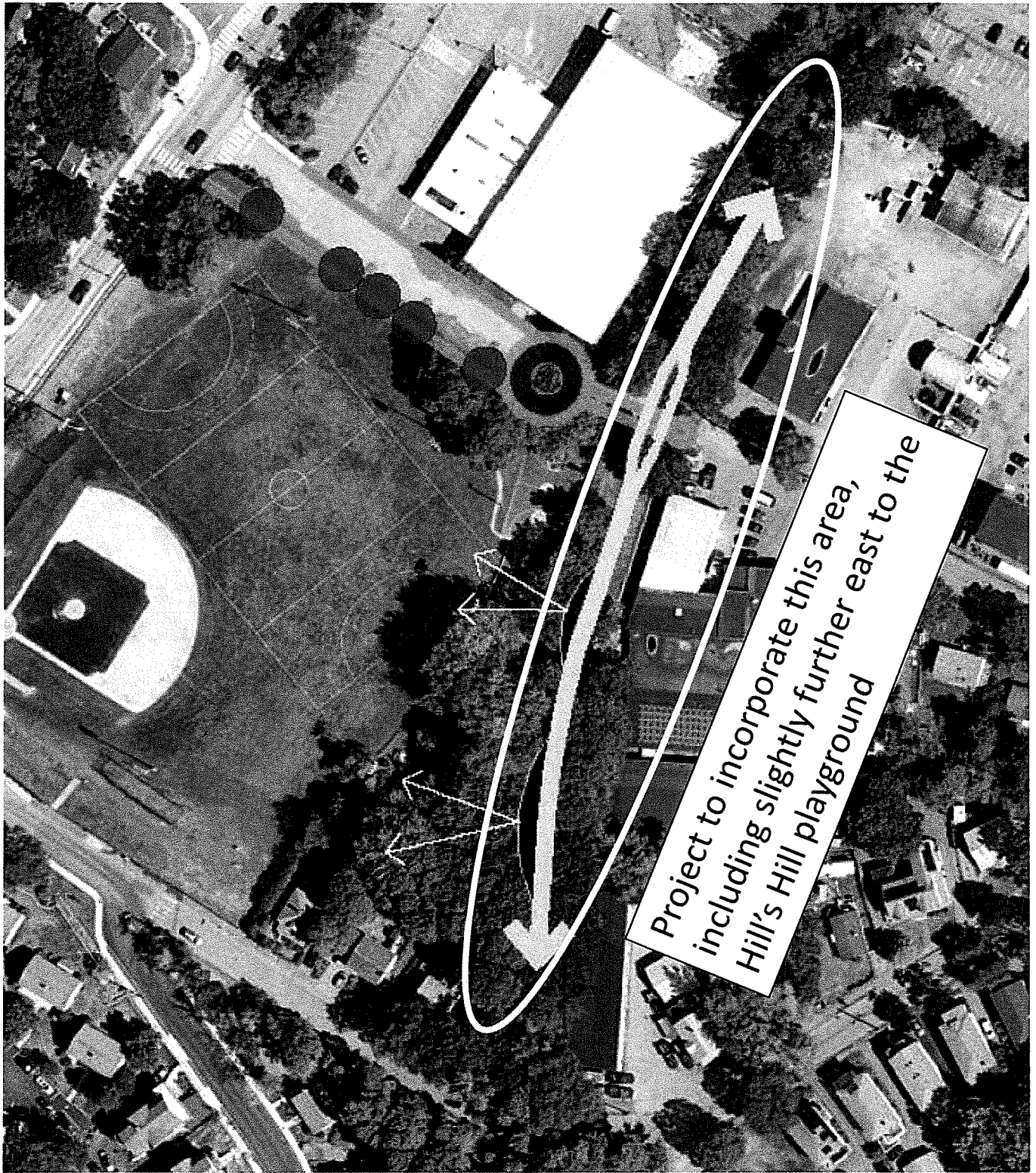
Survey, conceptual design and public outreach.

25

*[Handwritten signature]*

Figure 72. Schematic Plan of Improvements - Ryder Street / Summer Street Field / Ed Burns Arena





- **Creating an immersive experience** by creating waysides and incorporating placemaking elements that support the community's vision for an immersive Bikeway
- **Updating Bikeway policies** to address demand, speed, and user etiquette
  - The clarification and revision of existing policies will improve the user experience and help reduce conflicts on the Bikeway.

## Level of Investment

Implementation costs are broken into three levels of investment based on preliminary estimates. More detailed analysis is needed to determine more precise cost estimates.

- Low: <\$50,000
- Medium: \$50,000-\$100,000
- High: >\$100,000

## Timeline

Projects are categorized into three levels based on anticipated project development duration. A decision on whether and how to widen the Minuteman Bikeway will impact nearly all future design decisions, especially the design of access points and waysides. Further study is needed to progress this opportunity; a conceptual design effort could be a next step to collect survey, conduct targeted public engagement, and explore corridor-wide alternatives. Prior to a decision on widening, projects with short or medium project development durations that support improving safety, access, and maintenance can generally be pursued.

# PROJECT LIST

Table 23. Project List (by Section of Bikeway)

## Lexington Border to Park Avenue

Project Type & Description	Location	Investment	Timeline
<b>Expanding and Improving access</b> Improve wayfinding through the Hurd Field Parking Lot (p. 72)	Drake Road	\$	Short
<b>Expanding and Improving access</b> Provide more direct access between the Bikeway and Massachusetts Avenue (p. 72)	Drake Road	\$\$\$	Long
<b>Creating an Immersive experience</b> Construct wayside and enhance interaction with Mill Brook (p. 80)	Mill Brook Crossing	\$\$\$	Long
<b>Expanding and Improving access</b> Improve accessibility to and from Nourse Street and Lower Street Place over No-Name Brook, in partnership with the Conservation Commission (p. 72)	Nourse Street, Lower Street Place	\$\$\$	Long
<b>Expanding and Improving access</b> Design accessible connection near Gold's Gym (p. 72)	Between Park Avenue and Lowell Street Place	\$	Short
<b>Expanding and Improving access</b> Design staircase connection at northeast corner of Park Avenue underpass, to provide greater access to path from Massachusetts Avenue and Downing Square (p. 72)	Park Avenue	\$\$\$	Long

## Lowell Street to Hill's Hill

Project Type & Description	Location	Investment	Timeline
<b>Expanding and Improving access</b> Design staircase connection at Lowell Street underpass (p. 73)	Lowell Street	\$\$\$	Long
<b>Creating an Immersive experience</b> Construct wayside and enhance interaction with No-Name Brook (p. 81)	Lowell Street/No-Name Brook	\$\$\$	Medium
<b>Creating an Immersive experience</b> Strengthen connection to and from Mill Brook, historic Schwamb Mill, and Foot of the Rocks Memorial. Construct wayside. (p. 82)	Frazier Road/Mill Lane	\$	Medium
<b>Expanding and Improving access</b> Design staircase connection at Forest Street underpass (p. 73)	Forest Street	\$\$\$	Long
<b>Ongoing maintenance</b> Replace Forest Street bridge (p. 63)	Forest Street	\$\$\$	Long
<b>Expanding and Improving access</b> Promote <u>Ryder Street</u> access point to <u>O Field/Burns Avenue</u> <u>premier trailhead and construct waysides</u> (p. 83)	<u>Ryder Street/Summer Street</u> <u>Field/Burns Avenue</u>	\$\$\$	Medium

## Hill's Hill to Grove Street

Project Type & Description	Location	Investment	Timeline
<b>Short-term maintenance</b> Explore improvements on Washington Street, including repaving and incorporating improved bicycle and pedestrian accommodations. Investigate closing the end of the street to vehicle traffic. (p. 74)	Washington Street	\$	Long
<b>Facilitating network connections</b> Strengthen connection to and from Mill Brook Path and Wellington Park (p.74)	Brattle Street	\$\$\$	Long
<b>Ongoing maintenance</b> Create opportunities for widening by replacing or removing Brattle Street bridge (p.64)	Brattle Street	\$\$\$	Long
<b>Expanding and Improving access</b> Improve accessibility to and from Brattle Place (p. 74)	Brattle Place	\$\$\$	Long
<b>Facilitating network connections</b> Improve pedestrian and bicycle accommodations on Grove Street connecting to Bikeway (p. 74)	Grove Street	\$	Short
<b>Expanding and Improving access</b> Design accessible connection to and from Grove Street and create opportunities for widening by removing bridge (p. 64)	Grove Street	\$\$\$	Long

## B.2. Continue to develop and implement Safe Routes to School (SRTS) projects.

Several thousand children attend Arlington's schools. Encouraging them to walk or bike to school is not only good for their health, but it also reduces traffic congestion and greenhouse gas emissions. Safe Routes to School (SRTS) programs and infrastructure projects aim to provide safe transportation networks for children to walk and bike from their homes to their schools. Arlington was one of the first communities in the country to set up a SRTS program.

Funding for the program can come from both the State through MassDOT and the town. Although State funding has been limited in recent years, Arlington should prioritize local investments that enhance connectivity to and from schools throughout town. It should also consider school connectivity in all major projects whether its directly connected with the project or not. For example, any roadway project that potentially impacts a child's walk or bike to school must address their safety.

In 2019, Arlington received funding from MassDOT to implement a SRTS infrastructure project near Stratton Elementary School. The allocation will be made available in Federal Fiscal Year 2024 (FFY2024). Arlington continues to work with the Massachusetts SRTS program and its regional coordinator on other projects to address safety concern around other schools, including Dallin Elementary School and Thompson Elementary School.

## B.3. Complete the Minuteman Bikeway Project and implement recommendations that increase access to and capacity and safety on the pathway.

The Minuteman Bikeway is the central active transportation spine through Arlington, providing a picturesque, separated multi-use path for bicyclists and pedestrians connecting to Lexington and Bedford to the north and Cambridge to the south. The facility serves as both a recreational amenity for bicyclists, runners and walkers, and a convenient commuting route for residents and workers, connecting to the Red Line at Alewife Station in Cambridge and to the Somerville Community Path and Davis Square. Its popularity and heavy use have also resulted in conflicts among different users—especially bicyclists and pedestrians—and vehicles at roadway crossings.

The Town has allocated Community Preservation Act funding to engage a consultant to study options to expand capacity and improve safety along the Minuteman Bikeway. The study should be comprehensive in its analysis and recommendations; however, at a minimum, priorities to study and implement recommended changes should include:

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### B.3.1

#### **Prioritize opportunities to separate bicyclists from pedestrians to expand capacity and enhance comfort and safety.**

During the Connect Arlington planning process, numerous comments were received about the conflicts between bicyclists and pedestrians along the Minuteman Bikeway. Based on findings from the Bikeway study to be completed by the Town soon after the completion of this plan, opportunities to increase capacity through separate facilities designed for different speeds would add comfort and improve safety for both pedestrians and bicyclists along the pathway. Given that many segments of the pathway do not provide enough right-of-way (ROW) to provide fully separated uses, opportunities to widen the path and provide preferred use areas for each mode should be explored.

### B.3.2

#### **Develop and implement comprehensive wayfinding and user safety program for the bikeway.**

Signage to educate new and returning users about how the pathway should be used, or which pathway to use (if separate facilities are constructed) would help to reduce user conflicts. Wayfinding signage could also be used to encourage users to stop in Arlington's commercial centers and support local businesses.

### B.3.3

#### **Install lighting to increase visibility and safety along the pathway at night.**

Based on input received during focus groups and other plan engagement activities, many would like to see lighting added to the pathway from the Red Line to the Lexington line to increase safety of all users, and encourage more to use the facility at night, particularly during winter months when commuting hours are dark.

Developing a lighting plan to illuminate the bikeway would attract more use, particularly in darker months when many commuters return home after sunset. Lighting would not only reduce crash risks between users and pathway obstructions (e.g., vegetation on the path, uneven surfaces) but would also improve personal safety by providing increased visibility. Systems that direct light onto the path are recommended to minimize light impacts on residential abutters.

**Figure 9 User Separation**



*There are many design strategies to provide user separation. The Missouri Greenway includes areas for faster bicycle travel in the center, with areas for pedestrians on each side.*

*Source: [Great Rivers Greenway](#)*

Lighting could be installed along the entire pathway as one large project, or could be implemented in phases, beginning with segments from the Cambridge line to Arlington Center.

#### **B.3.4 Improve and add additional neighborhood connections.**

Ensure that all neighborhood connections, where they exist or can be added with minimal effort, are designed to accommodate all users safely. Connector paths should be no less than 8 feet wide to provide space for both bicyclists and pedestrians, which travel at different speeds. Adding connections to reduce distances between entry and exit points (combined with lighting) will also increase personal safety of users by providing more opportunities to exit the pathway when uncomfortable or potentially dangerous situations occur.

#### **B.4 Increase car share availability and membership in Arlington.**

Reducing car ownership helps to eliminate car trips that could be easily and conveniently made using other modes. Further, not every individual or household wants to or can afford to own a car, or more than one car. Currently, the car share provider Zipcar offers a few options in town for car share. However, providing shared vehicles throughout Arlington would help more residents to live a car-free or "car light" lifestyle by providing convenient options to use a vehicle when needed, and encouraging the use of other modes when not. There are many options for the Town to increase car share availability, including:

- B.4.1 Work with car share companies (e.g., Zipcar, Getaround, etc.) to explore additional locations, including on- and off-street locations.**
- B.4.2 Develop a Community Car Share program of Town-owned vehicles managed by a third-party entity.**

More and more communities are opting to own (and contract with a third party to operate) their own fleets of car share to increase access for their residents and businesses. Getaround, for example, is used to manage municipally-owned car share programs.
- B.4.3 Include car share as part of parking requirements in new multi-family, or larger commercial developments.**

Requiring car share at larger developments can reduce the need to own a car, or more than one car. This not only reduces monthly household expenses but can lower the overall development costs when less parking is needed.

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**RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT NATIONAL GRID REPAIR SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT (SEI)  
GAS LEAKS BY JUNE 30, 2023**

Whereas . . . Major methane gas leaks persist in Arlington owing to the failure of National Grid to make required repairs

Whereas . . . Methane gas leaks have detrimental effects on the environment, public health, safety, and welfare. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change reports that atmospheric methane is now higher than at any time in at least 800,000 years and that methane is more than 80 times more potent than carbon dioxide in terms of warming the climate.<sup>1</sup> Methane leaks are linked to many serious public health problems.<sup>2,3</sup> Most at risk are children, the elderly, and those with respiratory issues such as asthma, COPD, or lung damage from Covid-19. Methane leaks kill trees<sup>4</sup> by suffocating their root systems, compounding detrimental climate, heat island, and air quality effects, and costing the town money. Arlington has lost many Town trees to gas leaks.<sup>5</sup> The estimated annual cost of leaked methane (natural gas) billed to Arlington National Grid customers is \$117,541<sup>6</sup>

Whereas . . . Significant Environmental Impact (SEI) leaks, which spread over an area of 2,000 square feet or larger, are the largest and most harmful of methane gas leaks from the local gas distribution system. These leaks, also known as "super-emitters," are estimated to be responsible for 50% of local methane leaks.<sup>7</sup> Per 2021 data, Arlington has 14 SEI leaks<sup>8</sup>

Whereas . . . Owing to work by Mothers Out Front, HEET, Gas Leaks Allies, and other climate organizations, gas utilities are now required to share SEI locations with the public. Arlington's SEI leaks are in heavily trafficked, densely populated areas. They are across from the high school and in our residential neighborhoods. SEI leaks are found at 151 Lake Street (leaking since 2017), 259 Park Avenue (2017), 44 Jason Street (2011), 15 Russell Street (2006), 880 Massachusetts Avenue (2018), 325 Mystic Street (2012), 355 Mystic Street (2011), 106 Rhinecliff Street (2017), 864 Massachusetts Avenue (2020), 22 Sutherland Road (2017), 364 Gray Street (2014), 10 Joyce Road (2020), 58 Medford Street (2020), and 264 Massachusetts Avenue (2013).<sup>9</sup> These are presented in decreasing order of emissions

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.ipcc.ch/assessment-report/ar6/>

<sup>2</sup>

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/612638ab5e31f66d7ae8f810/t/615888c41ab1fe20dbe57188/1633192135840/Rolling+the+Dice.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.ccacoalition.org/en/news/methane%E2%80%99s-links-respiratory-diseases-strengthens-case-its-rapid-reduction>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0269749119376717?via%3Dihub>

<sup>5</sup> [https://docs.google.com/document/d/147o-LHgbIVNM7dx93L29LVkVgRo7qkB7u\\_GZIOg3Od4/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/147o-LHgbIVNM7dx93L29LVkVgRo7qkB7u_GZIOg3Od4/edit)

<sup>6</sup> <https://heet.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=73f7627766e64161a65c7518acb7eb9d>

<sup>7</sup> <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/27023280/>

<sup>8</sup> <https://heet.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=73f7627766e64161a65c7518acb7eb9d>  
(note that the nonprofit HEET uses utility data for these gas leaks maps)

<sup>9</sup> *ibid.*





Whereas . . . National Grid is responsible for fixing SEI leaks within two years of their designation date, per the requirements for Uniform Natural Gas Leaks Classification (220 CMR 114, D.P.U. 16-31-C)

Whereas . . . It was only in 2021, after years of public pressure, that National Grid measured the area of Arlington's gas leaks and designated these leaks as SEIs.<sup>10</sup> Although most of our large volume gas leaks (SEIs) have only been classified as such since 2021 after being required by regulation,<sup>11</sup> many of these leaks were identified much earlier

Whereas . . . Due to their volume, SEI leaks emit a disproportionately large amount of methane, a greenhouse gas, into our atmosphere and Arlington is committed to reaching net zero for greenhouse gas emissions by 2050<sup>12</sup> and has declared a climate emergency

Whereas . . . The Town Manager's Gas Leaks Task Force was convened in 2016 to improve the dialogue with National Grid regarding the repair of gas leaks so that the various environmental and public health related impacts of gas leaks can be better mitigated and includes representation from the Department of Public Works (Bill Copithorne, Engineering and Tim Lecuire, Tree Division), Sustainable Arlington (Bruce Moulton), the Tree Committee (Susan Stamps), and Mothers Out Front (Ann Boland and Ann Wright), and is staffed by the Department of Planning and Community Development (David Morgan, Environmental Planner)

Whereas . . . This resolution has been endorsed by the Conservation Commission, Open Space Committee, Tree Committee, Sustainable Arlington, Clean Energy Future Committee, School Committee, Board of Health, and Park and Rec Commission

Comment [DM1]: Red text indicates pending endorsements

Be It Resolved . . . That the Select Board shall send by email and by Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, a copy of this resolution together with a letter requesting that, within 30 days of date of said letter, National Grid commit to repair dates before June 30, 2023 for all of the above-listed SEIs and communicate those dates to the Select Board and Gas Leaks Task Force, to Amy Smith, Director NE Jurisdiction Gas Business Unit at National Grid and the following parties:

- Matthew H. Nelson, Chair of the Department of Public Utilities
- Representatives Sean Garballey and David Rogers
- Senator Cindy Friedman
- Directors of the Town of Arlington Department of Public Health, Department of Public Works, Department of Planning and Community Development
- Town of Arlington Public Information Officer Joan Roman
- Arlington Advocate, YourArlington, Arlington Patch, Arlington Community Media Inc., Boston Globe

<sup>10</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>11</sup> Uniform Natural Gas Leaks Classification (220 CMR 114, D.P.U. 16-31-C)

<sup>12</sup> Arlington Net Zero Action Plan, February, 2021

<https://www.arlingtonma.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/55139/637885684739670000>



MASSACHUSETTS  
COMMISSIONERS OF  
REVENUE

Respectfully submitted:

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DeCoursey, Stephen W.

---

Diggins, Lenard

---

Helmuth, Eric D.

---

Hurd, John V.

---

Mahon, Diane M.

## TOWN OF ARLINGTON



PARK COMMISSIONERS  
 Shirley Canniff  
 Leslie Mayer  
 Jon Rothenberg  
 Scott Walker  
 Phil Lasker  
 Sara Carrier - Associate

## Recreation Department

## SPECIAL EVENT REQUEST

\*For all gatherings over 50 people and private/corporate events

Today's Date: 10/24/22 (Requests must be made 1 month in advance)

Contact Name: Felicity Beal

Phone (C): 781-354-4438

Email Address: fbeal@shcinc.org

Home Address: 237 Appleton St, Arlington, MA 02476

Purpose: Housing + Homelessness Awareness Event

Estimated Attendance: 12-15

Day: Friday

Date: NOV 18

Set up Time: 5pm - if possible Start Time: 7pm

End Time: 7am (8/19) Break Down: 6am

Site Requested: Florence Field

Area at Site Requested: Field

Activities: Sleep out of Somerville Homeless Coalition's ED, Directors + staff to raise funds + awareness to the growing needs of the unsheltered in Somerville, Arlington + surrounding area.

Will food be on site? ☒ Yes ☐ No Please list all food: Pizza + snacks (ifred safely at night + all trash removed)

Will you be promoting this event via social media? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Fees:

Category	Group	Rate
Special Event	Arlington Resident/Organization	\$25/hr
Special Event	Non Arlington Resident/ Organizations	\$50/hr

## Additional Requirements/Fees:

- Site is permitted as is. Groups are responsible for cleanup of the site including trash. If your event needs support from Public Works additional fees will be required and billed per hour (minimum 4 hrs).
- For groups over 150 people a police detail may be required, if your group is required to get a police detail you must set this up with the department before you will receive a permit.
- If you will be having prepared food at your event you must contact the Board of Health to get the appropriate food permit.

✓ By signing below I acknowledge and accept the rules and regulations (back) responsibilities for this permit and I agree to release, indemnify, and hold harmless the Town of Arlington from and against any and all claims, demands, losses, damages, defense costs, or liability of any kind which may arise out of, or is in any manner connected with, the above-described activity.

Felicity Beal  
 (Signature of Responsible Party)

10/24/22  
 (Date)

## TOWN OF ARLINGTON

Joseph J. Connelly, Director of Recreation



### PARK COMMISSIONERS

Scott Walker  
Shirley Canniff  
Phil Lasker  
Leslie Mayer  
Jen Rothenberg  
Sara Carrier

### Recreation Department

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## Request for Proposal Town of Arlington Athletic Court Needs Assessment

The Arlington Park and Recreation Commission is in need of a consultant to prepare a need assessment for Town Athletic Courts.

The study should include an existing conditions report, recommended facility upgrades and improvements, additional courts and locations, and preliminary cost estimates for the recommendations. All upgrade must comply with the requirements of the American with Disabilities act of 1990 (ADA), including modifications made by the ADA Amendments Act of 2008. The Town of Arlington intends to enter into a contract for services with an experienced and qualified consultant to provide these services.

Proposals are due by November 10, 2022 no later than 3:00 PM at the Arlington Recreation Department, 422 Summer Street, Arlington, MA 02474, attention Joseph Connelly, Director of Recreation.

### Project Goals & Scope:

The Town of Arlington Park and Recreation Commission is requesting proposals and statements of qualifications from planning /design consultants and/or similar professionally qualified consultants to conduct a community-wide needs assessment pertaining to community athletic courts and a multi-sport court. This includes basketball courts, tennis courts, roller hockey courts and pickle ball courts. The proposal should also include lighting recommendations. The purpose of the assessment/study is to evaluate the existing parks and recreation facilities in Arlington and provide recommendations for improvements, additions, changes, priorities and strategies to address the current and future needs of the community.

Responding consultants are requested to provide a statement of qualifications and prepare a detailed scope of proposed work for consideration. This project will include review of existing information, review of existing conditions, public involvement, and recommendations for the future, determining priority needs, estimated repair and construction costs, and identifying funding sources

- Create a timeline for the planning process to include conducting public meetings (in person and/or virtual), public opinion surveys and formal public hearings (2-3) before the

# TOWN OF ARLINGTON

Joseph J. Connelly, Director of Recreation



## PARK COMMISSIONERS

Scott Walker  
Shirley Canniff  
Phil Lasker  
Leslie Mayer  
Jen Rothenberg  
Sara Carrier

## Recreation Department

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Park and Recreation Commission. The goal is to present the Commission a draft of the study in May 2023.

- Public Engagement - Consultant is expected to meet and obtain input through various processes (meetings, surveys). Community based survey is expected to be representative of the overall community.
- Provide an electronic assessments/study, conceptual plans and any technical addenda and maps to the Commission. Prepare and make available any graphics, maps, surveys, and other similar materials in both paper and computer readable format, where applicable.

### Deliverables:

1. The selected firm's representatives will be required to attend and provide a presentation at a Park and Recreation Commission meeting.
2. The selected firm's representatives will be required to attend and facilitate at least two/three other meetings.
3. Prepare a final report will be used to help secure funding for recommended projects.

### Price Proposal Format:

- A. Please identify the cost for the task in the Scope of Work.
- B. Any additional costs/charges must be clearly defined in the proposal.
- C. Acknowledge meeting all necessary insurance requirements.

### Relevant Experience:

- A. Your current and past experience as it relates to the scope of this RFP.
- B. A minimum of three related business references, including names, addresses and phone numbers plus a description of work you performed for them.
- C. Municipal government experience. Preference will be given to respondents who have developed plans for other municipalities.

### Project Approach:

- A. Describe your approach for completing the tasks identified in the Scope of Work section.
- B. Process to include input from the Community.

### Schedule:

- A. Project can begin immediately upon approval of contract. The final report should be completed and shared with the Commission by the Spring of 2023.

### Regulations:

- A. The projects conceptual designs must comply with all applicable federal and state laws and Town ordinances and regulations.



**PARK and RECREATION COMMISSION**  
**422 Summer Street**  
**Arlington, Massachusetts 02474**

**Joseph Connelly**  
Director of Recreation

**Phone 781-316-3880 Fax 781-641-5495**

**COMMISSIONERS**

*Jen Rothenberg*

*Leslie Mayer*

*Shirley Canniff*

*Phil Lasker*

*Scott Walker*

*Sara Carrier Scott Lever*

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**GIFTS FOR PARKS FORM**

Contact Name: Anthony POTTICK Date of Request: 10/25/2022

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Private or Non-Profit Group(501 c3): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: 97 Westminister Ave Arlington

Phone: Home 781-646-0530 Cell 781-606-4644

Email: dotopu97@gmail.com

**Intended Gift (please select one):**

Park Bench

Picnic Table

Bike Rack

Planting/Tree

**Donation Costs:** (Actual equipment + installation fee + estimate of maintenance over 8 years)

Park Bench \$ 3000.00 (installation & maintenance for 8 years)

Picnic Table \$ 4000.00 (installation & maintenance for 8 years)

Bike Rack \$ 3000.00 (installation & maintenance for 8 years)

**Park Requested:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Recognition Plaque Text** (see attached policy details for specifics):

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Signature

Date

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From: Anthony Puttick dotopu97@gmail.com  
Date: Oct 25, 2022 at 8:23:08 AM  
To: Anthony Puttick doto97@rcn.com

[ IN HONOR OF DOREEN T. PUTTICK ]

It's the **beauty** within us that  
makes it possible for us  
to recognize the **beauty around us**.  
The question is not what  
you **look at** but what you **see**.

— Henry David Thoreau

~~Sent from my iPad~~

NOTE If the whole quotation is too long and  
therefore unacceptable,  
Please consider

[ It's not what you LOOK AT but  
what you SEE,

Henry David Thoreau. ]

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**From:** Wynelle Evans <evco7@rcn.com>  
**To:** jconnelly@town.arlington.ma.us, jrothenberg@town.arlington.ma.us, scanniff@town.arlington.ma.us, lmayer@town.arlington.ma.us, phil\_lasker@yahoo.com  
annleroyer12@gmail.com, Elisabeth Carr-Jones <elisabeth@carr-jones.com>, tdebenedictis@town.arlington.ma.us, Brian McBride <brianmcb@outlook.com>, David Morgan <dmorgan@town.arlington.ma.us>, richterg@aol.com, david.white@arlingtontmm.org, Susan Stamps <susan.stamps@comcast.net>, meaarlington@gmail.com, keith.schnebly@verizon.net, elizaburden@comcast.net, dunster@dandunn.org, tlecuivre@town.arlington.ma.us, Diane Krause <samburu3@gmail.com>, ecrowder@communication-exchange.com  
**Cc:**  
**Date:** 10/21/2022 12:47 PM  
**Subject:** Pump track at Hill's Hill

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CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

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Please enter in Correspondence Received, thank you

Dear Park & Recreation Commission Members:

I'm writing to add my voice to those who believe that siting a pump track at Hill's Hill is not the most desirable solution to the placement of this element of the proposed mountain bike park.

Paths have been created through the woods at Hill's Hill, although without Park & Recreation approval. Now that they are there, let them be used, but leave the top of the hill as is. The pump track would forever alter this rare little piece of land, both by leveling and shaping the hilltop, and by clearing the necessary access road for machinery. However, there are two very nearby areas, one actually adjacent, that could each offer an excellent alternative site: the small playground to the west of the rink (there is another playground about 200 yards away on the east side of the rink), or the area at the base of the hill, beside the soccer field and near the bike path. Both would likely be less costly to develop because of their already level nature, absence of exposed bedrock, and much easier access for construction equipment; either would also create the linear park experience suggested by a member of the Open Space Committee, and warmly received by PRC.

Supporters of the pump track at Hill's Hill have commented on the dearth of options in town for our kids. We have the Boys and Girls Club; Fidelity House; over 40 parks and playgrounds, many currently undergoing restoration; sparkling new athletic facilities coming to the new HS; the Reservoir; the bike path; the recently renovated Senior Center, now the Community Center and home to new activities; a gorgeous library; Arlington Continuing Education programs; Spy Pond canoe and kayak rentals; the skateboard park at McClennon Field; etc. And almost every Article seeking funding for kids' needs that comes before Town Meeting is passed. Recreation is well established here.

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If we truly care about our kids, we must consider the hugely daunting reality of their future on a planet that is in flames or underwater, where species are going extinct as habitat is shrunk and destroyed, and where one climate disaster after another displaces people, destroys communities, and escalates recovery costs into the stratosphere, which our children will pay for. Just look at what's happening in Florida, California, Kentucky, India, Sudan, all over the world. We are out of time. The quickest, easiest, least costly thing we can do to begin the long slog of slowing climate catastrophe is to protect what remains, leave trees standing, and leave habitat in place. Does this one little hilltop matter in the big scheme of things? Yes. Everything is connected, and every small action adds to the whole.

Arlington has very few remaining wild areas without way-finding, manicured paths, playgrounds or other additions, and all are under pressure to be shared with other uses. Those that remain, including Hill's Hill, are far from under-utilized. They are instead oases for those who like to walk and run through them, to take photos and watch birds, to sit someplace for a picnic or to read, to have a pandemic-era outdoor meeting, and to enjoy a slice of nature minus the human imprint. They serve as reservoirs of cooling shade, sound buffering from traffic, a chance to step into a peaceful setting and slow down a bit. They remind us that we share our world with non-humans who are being continually squeezed into fewer and smaller habitats. Our own survival is tied up in their survival, and that of the areas that allow them to thrive. Once a pump track is created, any of these uses at Hill's Hill will be a thing of the past. We will have clear-cut this area of rejuvenating woodland and meadow for a single dedicated use, to be enjoyed by a very small percentage of our population, while also destroying everything in the path of the heavy equipment required to clear, level and then shape it. Many of the comments to the recent Open Space Plan survey express concerns about the loss of open space, and stress the need to preserve undeveloped areas, rather than focus on more recreational uses. This can't be a case of paying consultants to conduct a survey and produce a plan, and then ignoring resident input.

In order to reach the best balance between those who want the mountain bike park, and those who know we all need our wild spaces, please consider an alternate site for the pump track, and maintain this rare spot for enjoyment by all.

Thank you for all your work, and best wishes,  
Wynelle Evans

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Wynelle Evans  
TMM pct. 14  
20 Orchard Place  
Arlington, MA 02476  
781.643.4547 office  
781.859.9291 mobile  
[evco7@rcn.com](mailto:evco7@rcn.com)

41

**From:** Brian McBride <brianmcb@outlook.com>  
**To:** Joe Connelly <jconnelly@town.arlington.ma.us>  
**Date:** 10/27/2022 01:36 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Hill's Hill and Community Preservation Act Request

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Hello Joe and PRC members,

I wanted to circle back on our request that Hill's Hill CPA funding request exclude the Pump Track from being located in the woods (and the other Eco-Track points). We've not seen this to date, so it seems like it won't be forthcoming, meaning all design options are still on the table going forward. In that case, we'll continue our advocacy for Eco-Track as part of CPA funding and onward.

I write this because we want the Commission to know we appreciate its listening and its stated inclination toward a preservation oriented project. It's just that we're passionate about these points and feel it's necessary to continue advocacy until it's been definitively resolved.

Thanks again for the partnership. We all want a solution that meets the town's multiple needs.

Brian McBride  
m 617-645-8729  
brianmcb@outlook.com

On Oct 10, 2022, at 6:12 PM, Brian McBride <brianmcb@outlook.com> wrote:

Dear Joe and PRC members,

I'd like to ask that the PRC request for CPA funding for the Hill's Hill project include language reflecting the Eco-Track approach.

This would ideally include a reference to the three key pillars:

- \* Pump track located outside the Hill's Hill woods
- \* Low impact/eco-friendly trails
- \* Habitat restoration funded and supported by community projects / partnerships.

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I believe this is the intent of the commission. It is consistent with the public feedback. A count of the letters on the PRC website for example, has 47% supporting Eco-Track by name or relocation of the pump track outside the woods. Including language along these lines would assure supporters of the compromise that funding philosophy reflects that community input – subject, of course, to the future public input sessions during design.

Thanks for your collaboration with the community.

Brian McBride  
m 617-645-8729  
brianmcb@outlook.com

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**From:** Rebecca Peterson <rebeccaopeterson@gmail.com>  
**To:** "jconnelly@town.arlington.ma.us" <jconnelly@town.arlington.ma.us>, jfeeney@town.arlington.ma.us  
**Date:** 10/28/2022 02:48 PM  
**Subject:** Hill's Hill proposal

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Hi Joe -

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed mountain bike trail project to Hill's Hill, for a few reasons:

1. The town is facing a large deficit and upcoming override - this doesn't seem to be a fiscally responsible use of half a million dollars.
2. This will benefit an incredibly small portion of Arlington residents. But it may draw bike enthusiasts from other communities, which will speed up erosion and deterioration of the area.
3. We have very few wild green spaces left, yet we have so many people anxious to "improve" them by making them un-wild...why is this? Cutting down trees and adding man-made structures will only increase the people, trash and noise in this small woodland.

Thank you,  
Rebecca Peterson  
31 Florence Ave.

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**From:** Ms Kristin Lee Anderson <forcedexposure@gmail.com>  
**To:** jconnelly@town.arlington.ma.us  
**Date:** 10/29/2022 06:11 PM  
**Subject:** Concerns about Hills Hill

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Dear Mr. Connelly,

I have serious concerns about the proposal to build a recreational bike park inside the Hill's Hill Woods.

Please ensure this project puts Nature first as proposed in the Eco Track alternative.

The land is much more valuable undeveloped and undisturbed by a bike pump track. As a passive park, it will soothe the soul of Arlington residents in the years to come.

Thank you,

Kristin Anderson  
Town Meeting Member, Precinct 11

Sent from my iPhone

45

**From:** Marjorie Howard <marjoriehow@gmail.com>  
**To:** Joe Connelly <jconnelly@town.arlington.ma.us>  
**Date:** 10/31/2022 11:45 AM  
**Subject:** Concerns about Hills Hill

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I have serious concerns about the proposal to build a recreational bike park inside the Hill's Hill Woods.

Please ensure this project puts Nature first as proposed in the Eco Track alternative.

Thank you,

Marjorie Howard

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**From:** "Joe Connelly" <JConnelly@town.arlington.ma.us>  
**To:** leegirl9@yahoo.com  
**Date:** 10/24/2022 09:43 AM  
**Subject:** Handrails at the Res

---

Hi Lisa,

Maria gave me your contact information and told me you were hoping to have handrails installed leading into the water at the Res. I will pass this on to the Commission but I will tell you that this was a discussion point during the renovation planning and at that time the Commission decided not to do this.

The old railings were not at an accessible grade (less than 5%) and the only area we can get that grade is where the blue mat currently is. Placing a cement walk way with handrails leading into the water in the middle of the res is not something the Commission wanted to do at the time.

I will make sure I pass this request along.

Joseph Connelly, M. Ed.  
Director of Recreation  
Town of Arlington

***Arlington values equity, diversity, and inclusion. We are committed to building a community where everyone is heard, respected, and protected.***

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**From:** Monique Ouimette <monique.y.ouimette@gmail.com>  
**To:** jconnelly@town.arlington.ma.us  
**Date:** 10/28/2022 11:17 AM  
**Subject:** lighting at Lussiano Field/Thompson School playground

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Dear Mr. Connelly,

Thanks for the many great recreational spaces that your department maintains.

I am writing to inquire about the possibility of adding some light in the evening to the playground at Lussiano Field/Thompson School.

I was talking with fellow parents recently and we all think it would be great if there were lighting on the playground during the months when the sun sets early.

We have noticed that there is currently a utility pole and lighting fixture on North Union Street that would shine directly on the playground. The light is not currently on in the evenings.

We have also noticed that there is a pole along the spray park path with two light fixtures. One light shines on the path in the direction of the spray park. The other light, that would shine toward the playground, is not illuminated.

Would it be possible to illuminate these lights during the darker months of the year so that kids and parents could enjoy the playground after parents get out of work and after dinner?

I propose illuminating the lights on a timer from a half hour before sunset until around 8pm each night. That way, there would be time after work and after dinner where families could enjoy the park.

Would this be something that is possible?

Thank you for your time and attention to this request.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,  
Monique Ouimette

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